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APPLICATION NO		FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,256		11/03/2003	Drew Gant	60,210-190	3673
27305	7:	590 03/22/2006		EXAMINER	
		HOWARD ATTOR	YABUT, DIANE D		
	THE PINEHURST OFFICE CENTER, SUITE #101 39400 WOODWARD AVENUE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BLOOMF	ELI	HILLS, MI 48304-	5151	3734	
				DATE MAILED: 03/22/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
Office Action Commons	10/700,256	GANT, DREW					
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
	Diane Yabut	3731					
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).							
Status							
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/03	<u>3/2003</u> .						
·— ·							
3) Since this application is in condition for allowar	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance with the practice under E	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims							
4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.							
Application Papers							
 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on <u>03 November 2003</u> is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. 							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 							
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/23/04; 3/29/04.	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other: IDS, Mail Da	ate atent Application (PTO-152)					

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because on line 2 it reads "various shaped and sizes," and should instead read --various shapes and sizes--. Also, the abstract should include the cup element in detail, as well as its placement within a bearing, which is within a housing aperture. This should be included after the sentence "The surgical saw blade coupler includes a cap, a pin, and a driver." Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: On page 7, paragraph 0039: "first end 58"; "second end 60"; "cutting edge 62"; "plurality of teeth 64"; "blade slot 66". Also, on page 8, paragraph 0041: "cup aperture 90." Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

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3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: In **Figure 12**, reference characters **12a**, **68A'**, **68B'**, **68C'**, **68D'**, and **68E'**. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 4. Claims 1-27 are allowed.
- 5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record, alone or in combination, discloses a surgical saw blade coupler for removably holding a surgical saw blade that comprises a cup element, with a first end defining a cup aperture and a second end having a lip for limiting inward movement of the cup through a housing aperture. None of the prior art of record, alone or in combination, has the configuration of a cup, or cup-like structure, disposed in a bearing, wherein the bearing is disposed in a housing aperture of a housing. Prior art of

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record do disclose surgical saw blade couplers with similar structures of a housing, a pin, a cap, a bearing, and a driver coupled to a motor, yet lack the present invention element of a cup, or a cup-like structure, disposed in a bearing, which is further disposed in a housing aperture.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Matthai (Patent No. 5468247) discloses a saw blade for powered medical handpiece that has a sleeve bearing and chuck.

7. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following informal matters:

See above paragraphs 1-3.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex* parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diane Yabut whose telephone number is (571) 272-6831. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9AM-4PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DDY

ANHTUANT. NGUYEN SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER